

ICHTHYOLOGICAL NOTES, No. 3.

BY T. C. MARSHALL.

(Plate XXIV.)

Family GALAXIIDÆ.

Galaxias attenuatus (Jenyns).

1842. *Mesites attenuatus*, Jenyns, Zool. Beagle, vol. iv. Fish, p. 121, pl. 22, fig. 5.
 1905. *Galaxias attenuatus*, Regan, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., p. 368, pl. 12, fig. 1, pl. 13, fig. 2.

MR. R. W. Pearce presented two live specimens of this fish to the Museum. They were taken by him in a small freshwater pool at the Eight-mile Plains, Brisbane. One specimen (which died shortly afterwards) measured 97 mm. in total length. The other, which is of about the same length, is still alive in the Museum aquarium. Mr. W. Willes, of Russell Island, Moreton Bay, forwarded another example (97 mm.), taken by him from a pumping plant in his freshwater dam on Russell Island. Since receiving the above specimens, I have been informed that various members of the Queensland Aquarium Society have met with this species on several occasions, both on the islands of Moreton Bay and also on the mainland. (Qld. Mus. Nos. I. 4380, I. 4382.)

Family ANGUILLIDÆ.

Anguilla reinhardtii Steindachner.

1867. *Anguilla reinhardtii* Steindachner, Sitzb. Akad. Wiss., Wien., lv, 1, p. 15, figs. a & b.

On the 11th February last, Mr. Jack Campbell presented an elver of this species to the Museum. It was collected in a hand-net, together with several *Melanotœnia nigrans*, in a small stream near Aspley, Brisbane. The interesting feature of this specimen is its smallness, being only 54 mm. in total length and 5 mm. in depth of body. (Qld. Mus. No. I. 4434.)

Family LATILIDÆ.

*Branchiostegus*¹ sp.

1815. *Branchiostegus*, Rafinesque, Analyse de la Nature, Palermo.
 1830. *Latilus*, Cuvier & Valenciennes, Hist. Nat. des Poiss., vol. v., p. 368.
 1902. *Latilus*, Jordan & Snyder, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus. 1902, vol. 24, p. 488.

¹As noted by Jordan & Evermann (The Genera of Fishes, 1917, p. 90), Rafinesque's genus *Branchiostegus*, published in 1815 as a substitute for *Coryphænoïdes*, Lacépède 1802 (not of Gunner, 1761), has precedence over *Latilus* of Cuvier & Valenciennes, 1830.

A specimen 455 mm. in total length was caught 40 miles off Noosa Heads, South Queensland, by Mr. Laurie Rhodes, who kindly presented it to the Museum. (Qld. Mus. No. I. 4389.) On examination this proved to be a species of *Branchiostegus*, a genus not hitherto recorded from Australian waters.

This specimen does not agree with the descriptions of "Latilus" published in literature available here. Unfortunately, I am unable to consult Kishinouye's paper on the Japanese species, containing the description of his "*L. auratus*."² In the circumstances I am compelled to content myself with recording the specimen generically for Australia.

Family CARANGIDÆ.

Elagatis bipinnulatus (Quoy & Gaimard).

(Plate XXIV, Figure 1.)

1824. *Seriota bipinnulata* Quoy & Gaimard, Voy. Uranie, Zool., vol. i, p. 363, pl. 61, fig. 3 (Keeling Islands).
 1896. *Elagatis bipinnulatus* Jordan & Evermann, Bull. 47 U. S. Nat. Mus. (1), p. 906.
 1907. *Elagatis bipinnulatus* Stead, Add. Fish Faun. N. S. Wales.

A fine example, measuring 980 mm. in total length, was captured at Flat Rock, South Queensland, and presented by Mr. F. Leach. (Qld. Mus. No. I. 4378.)

This is the second record of this species from Australian waters, and a new record for Queensland. The first specimen was collected off Port Jackson, New South Wales, in 1907.³

Family LOBOTIDÆ.

Lobotes surinamensis (Bloch).

1790. *Holocentrus surinamensis* Bloch, Aust. Fische, vol. iv., p. 98, pl. 243.
 1876. *Lobotes surinamensis* Bleeker, Atlas Ichth., vol. viii, p. 12, pl. 311, fig. 4 (as *L. erate* C. & V.).
 1881. *Lobotes auctorum* Gunther, var. *somnolentus* C. & V. Macleay, Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. Wales, vol. 5, p. 375.

A well-marked fish measuring 355 mm. in total length was caught off Luggage Point, Moreton Bay, and presented by Inspector W. Hiddens. (Q.M. No. I. 4391.)

Family CORIDÆ.

Coris aygula Lacépède.

1802. *Coris aygula* Lacépède, iii, p. 96, pl. 4, fig. i.
 1878. *Coris aygula* Day. Fishes of India, p. 408, pl. lxxxviii., fig. 5.
 1915. *Coris aygula* Ogilby. Commere. Fishes and Fisheries of Qld., p. 33. (An Essay.)

² Kishinouye, Zool. Mag., xix, Feb. 15, 1907, p. 59.

³ Stead, Add. Fish. Faun. N. S. Wales, 1907, p. 17, pl. 5.

In December last a large head of what is apparently *Coris ayyula* was received from Bowen, North Queensland, through the kindness of Mr. E. H. Rainford.

This head has the very prominent bump on the nape, similar to an "Old Man Snapper." Its colour is now "terre verte," but when first received was dark blue. It is finely vermiculated over all its surface (with the exception of the lips) with short, wavy, bluish white crescentic lines and spots.

There does not appear to be a posterior canine present.

Ogilby⁴ described the life colours of this variable Labrid from a series of five specimens from Lord Howe Island, measuring from two and one-third inches to twenty-eight inches in length.

Assuming the length of the head to be somewhere in the proportion of three and three-quarters or four in the total length, our specimen must have belonged to a fish forty-five to forty-eight inches in length, surely a record for the species.

***Coris picta* (Bloch & Schneider).**

(Plate XXIV, Figure 2.)

1801. *Labrus pictus* Bloch & Schneider, Syst. Ichth. 1801, p. 251, pl. 55.

1903. *Coris picta* Waite, Rec. Aust. Mus., vol. 5, 1903, p. 26, pl. 5, fig. i.

Two well-marked specimens of this handsome "Comb-fish," 223 mm. and 265 mm. respectively, were recently presented to the Museum by Mr. Cecil Anderson and Inspector W. Hiddens, of the State Fisheries Department. The former was taken at Point Lookout, Stradbroke Island, and the latter specimen off Cape Moreton, South Queensland (Qld. Mus. Nos. I. 4433, I. 4431).

***Thalassoma lunaris* (Linnæus).**

1758. *Labrus lunaris* Linnæus, Syst. Nat., 10th ed. 1758, p. 283.

1862. *Julis lunaris* Bleeker, Atlas Ichth. i, 1862, p. 90, pl. 33, 5.

1893. *Thalassoma lunare* Kent. "The Great Barrier Reef," p. 296, pl. xvi, fig. 13.

A beautiful example of this somewhat rare Labrid, caught by Mr. S. Leach off Cape Moreton, South Queensland, was forwarded to the Museum by my friend Inspector W. Hiddens, of the State Fish Supply. It measured 300 mm. long (caudal lobes included). (Q. M. No. I. 4430.)

The only other previous records for Queensland of this beautiful species are Saville-Kent's⁵ specimen from Rocky Island, Cape Flattery, and three old specimens in our collection registered from Moreton Bay.

I take the opportunity here of thanking Inspector W. Hiddens for his many donations of fishes, almost all of which have proved to be rare or little-known species.

⁴ Mem. Aust. Mus., No. 2, 1889, p. 68.

⁵ The Great Barrier Reef, by W. Saville-Kent, 1893, p. 296, pl. xvi, fig. 13.

Owing to the absence of a good description of the appearance in life of this fish, and also its many apparent variations, I shall here describe the colours of our specimen, taken a short interval after death. The colours are those of Ridgway's "Nomenclature of Colors."

General body colour "terre verte," strongest in a vertical band about one inch in width, extending from a point below the first six dorsal spines to midway between the ventral and anal fins, where it widens and is lost in the surrounding body colours posteriorly. Against the salmon colour of the belly it is somewhat sharply defined. Each scale, observed separately, is "parrot green," edged with "apple green," and with a narrow, vertical, central bar of pale rose madder.

The head is "saturn red" marked with a series of green bands. The "saturn red" is strongest on the nape, gradually softening towards the ventral surface and fading into salmon on the belly. The first or superior band, which is "apple green" in colour, extends from the premaxilla to a point a little over halfway to the first dorsal spine. It is much wider than the succeeding bands, being at its greatest width equal to the diameter of the eye. The second band, which is joined anteriorly to the first slightly before the eye, runs partly through and across the top of the ocular region and is lost in the surrounding colour midway between the operculum and the dorsal surface. The third, a short postorbital band, commences on the posterior edge of the orbit and extends along the upper edge of the operculum. The fourth, commencing at the gape of the mouth, extends upwards and across the lower edge of the eye, thence downwards to the posterior border of the operculum, and on a line horizontally with the base of the pectoral. The fifth and sixth are joined anteriorly at a point slightly below the gape and terminate on the edge of the sub-operculum. The lateral bands are all sub-equal in width and are in colour "Paris green" with flushes of "beryl green."

The inferior band commences as a diamond-shaped "campanula blue" patch on the throat, which narrows and changes to "Paris green" as it extends, fairly well defined, down to the isthmus. It continues to the base of the ventrals, though faintly.

The eye is "Paris green," with the black pupil surrounded by a narrow gold ring. A horizontal "Paris green" band, swollen at its anterior extremity, extends between the pectorals and ventrals, and is in length as long as the latter.

The dorsal and anal fins are "saturn red" along their basal portion, slightly crenulated and sharply defined from the neighbouring colour by a very narrow, dusky black line. Outer portion of the dorsal and anal fin "Paris green" with shades of "apple green." A very small black smear appears between the second and third dorsal spines.

Caudal with a large "lemon yellow" spot, fading outwards to "Paris green" anteriorly and creamy white posteriorly. This spot is bordered on

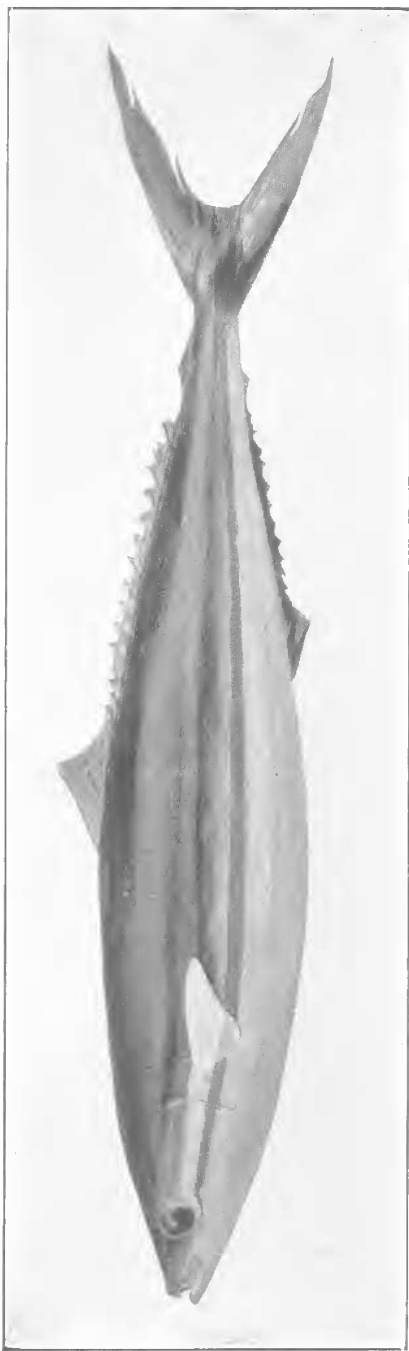


Fig. 1.—*Blagotis Uppinulatus* (Quoy and Gaimard). From east in Queensland Museum.



Fig. 2.—*Coris picta* (Bloch and Schneider). From east in Queensland Museum.

both dorsal and ventral surfaces by a bar of "saturn red," which in its turn is bordered by a narrow "beryl green" edge, both of which terminate at the extreme tip of the caudal lobes.

The pectorals are "lemon yellow" and the posterior margin is sharply demarcated with a beautiful broad "hyacinth blue" border; antero-superiorly, there is a small black axillary spot. (Qld. Mus. Reg. No. I. 4430.)

Ophthalmolepis lineolatus (Cuv. & Val.).

1839. *Julis lineolatus* Cuvier & Valenciennes. Hist. Nat. Poissons, xiii, p. 436.

1865. *Ophthalmolepis lineolatus* Kner. Novara Zool., vol. i, Fische, p. 258, pl. ii, fig. i.

Through the kindness of Mr. George Hissted, a specimen of this beautiful Labrid was presented to the Museum. It was captured off Caloundra, South Queensland, and measured 258 mm. in total length. Although common in New South Wales, this species appears to be rare in Queensland, the above example being a new record for our State. (Qld. Mus. No. I. 4376.)

Family LIMNICHTHYIDÆ.

Schizochirus insolens Waite.

1904. *Schizochirus insolens* Waite, Rec. Aust. Mus., vol. v, pt. 4, p. 242, pl. 26, fig. 3.

Three specimens of this rare species, of which previously only two were known,⁶ were forwarded to the Museum by one of our old and esteemed honorary collectors, Mr. James Palmer, of Cowan Cowan, Moreton Island, Moreton Bay. They measure 46, 51, and 57 mm. respectively, and were taken by him at Cowan Cowan. This makes another new record to be added to the list of Queensland Fishes.

⁶ Waite, Rec. Aust. Mus., vol. v, pt. 4, p. 242, pl. 26, fig. 3.